

Mr. DISTRICT ATTORNEY

cast: *Mr. D. A.* Jay Jostyn
Miss Miller Vicki Vola
Harrington Len Doyle
Bob Jack Grimes
Bill Bob Readick
Dan Ralph Bell



In a quiet corner of a restaurant near his office, Mr. District Attorney (right) sat puzzling over the rapid rise of thefts of new cars in his city. With him were his secretary, Miss Miller, and Harrington, his right hand man. "We've picked up a few of the kids who do the actual stealing," he told them, "but they're small fry. Somewhere there's a master syndicate running this racket and we've got to find it."



At that very moment in another part of the city, the crime syndicate was enlisting new recruits. Bob, 17, and his brother Bill, 15, had noticed a car with its key left in the ignition. Though they knew it was a serious offense, they "borrowed" the car for a short joy ride. Then as they were parking it again...



... a short swarthy man stopped them. "What's the matter with you kids," he said. "You take a chance like that just for the fun of driving a new car. Stick with me and I'll get you some real money with no more risks." As simply as that Bob and Bill became members of the city-wide car stealing syndicate. They picked up new cars; Dan painted and resold them.



As time went by, Bob and Bill not only stole cars but made their crime a federal one by driving them across the state line for re-sale. One day Bob blew up and told Dan he was sick of taking all the risks. "Okay," said Dan evenly, "I'll do the driving on the next job. If you two want to come along, I'll show you what a real thrill is like."



To make good his boast, Dan raced the next "hot" car directly down the main street of the city instead of taking the usual back route to his garage. Suddenly, as he turned around to grin at Bill in the back seat, a pedestrian stepped out from behind a parked car. There was a sickening thud as they ran her down; then the car went out of control and crashed against a store front. Bill, in the back seat, was trapped in the wreckage. Bob tried to free him, but Dan pulled him away. "We've got to get out of here before the cops come," he screamed. "Never mind Bob. We'll get the chair if we're caught."



The woman pedestrian died, but after a month in the hospital, Bill was able to walk again. As soon as the police had learned the death car was a stolen one, they called in Harrington and all during Bill's weeks in bed, the special investigator had tried to make him reveal the name of the car's driver. Bill stubbornly refused to talk. Finally Harrington let him go, determined to shadow him until the case was broken.



In the meantime, the D.A.'s office had recovered another car which had been stolen and repainted by the syndicate. While Harrington trailed Bill, Mr. D.A. and Miss Miller were canvassing the paint stores trying to learn who had recently purchased a large quantity of the paint that had been used on the car. Eventually their search led them to Dan's name, and they set out to check up on his garage.



As they came through the garage door, they heard the sounds of a fight from inside. Harrington had trailed Bill to the hideout and surprised Dan and Bob in the act of disguising another stolen car. As Mr. D.A. and Miss Miller came rushing in, Harrington landed a right to the jaw that took all the fight out of the ring's master mind. Brought to trial, Dan was sentenced to a long term in a federal penitentiary. Because of their youth, Bob and Bill were committed to a state school for boys where, according to the D.A., they will be given a chance to develop into law-abiding and useful citizens despite their bad start.